

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO**

MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.,
a Delaware Corporation; and **CHENGDU
MONOLITHIC POWER SYSTEMS CO.,
LTD.**, a Chinese Corporation,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BASEUS ACCESSORIES LLC, an Ohio
Limited Liability Company,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. _____

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiffs Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. and Chengdu Monolithic Power Systems Co., Ltd. (collectively, “MPS” or “Plaintiffs”) file this Complaint against Defendant Baseus Accessories LLC (“Baseus Accessories” or “Defendant”), and allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a civil action that includes claims for damages and injunctive relief under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1, *et seq.*, for the infringement of United States Patent Nos. 8,400,790 (“the ’790 Patent”) and 10,432,104 (“the ’104 Patent”) (together, the “Asserted Patents”). True and correct copies of these patents are attached as Exhibits A and B.

INTRODUCTION

2. MPS has a pending lawsuit in the Western District of Texas alleging infringement of these same Asserted Patents and trade-secret misappropriation against semiconductor manufacturer Meraki Integrated Circuit (Shenzhen) Technology, Ltd. (“Meraki”) and several other downstream companies that use accused Meraki products. *Monolithic Power Sys., Inc. et al v.*

Meraki Integrated Circuit (Shenzhen) Technology, Ltd. et al, No. 6:20-cv-00876-ADA (W.D. Tex.) (the “Texas case” or “Texas action”). In its Second Amended Complaint in the Texas case filed September 10, 2021, MPS added downstream defendants including Shenzhen Times Innovation Technology Co. Ltd. (“Baseus”) and Defendant Baseus Accessories. *Id.*, dkt. 63; *see also id.*, dkt. 96 (Third Amended Complaint, still naming Baseus and Baseus Accessories as defendants). On November 29, 2021, Baseus Accessories filed a motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint on grounds of personal jurisdiction and venue. *Id.*, dkt. 95. Today, December 13, 2021, MPS is voluntarily dismissing Baseus Accessories as a defendant in the Texas case, and files this complaint against Baseus Accessories in this district, Baseus Accessories’ home.

3. MPS is a world leader in the design, development, manufacture, and sale of semiconductor products, including synchronous rectifier products that help convert the alternating current (“AC”) from electrical wall outlets to the direct current (“DC”) that is needed to power many everyday devices like smart phones and laptop computers. Founded in 1997, MPS has achieved significant growth year over year and great financial success due to its unmatched technical innovation and ability to offer high-performance products that are used in consumer electronics, automotive, communications, and storage products. MPS’s mission is to reduce total energy consumption in its customers’ systems with practical, energy-efficient solutions. To continue to innovate, MPS has invested significant resources to develop a large patent portfolio covering its semiconductor products, including its synchronous rectifier products.

4. Meraki competes directly against MPS for customers of synchronous rectifier products, including products that are designed to be pin-for-pin compatible with MPS’s products, and are brazenly advertised as such.

5. On information and belief, Meraki was founded by two former employees of MPS, Mr. Wei (Wayne) Dong, and Ms. Lin (Elaine) Sheng, around April 2017—only weeks after they quit their jobs at MPS under mysterious circumstances. Each of their brief tenures at MPS lasted approximately one year—apparently, the perfect amount of time to infiltrate MPS, steal its trade secrets, and get out fast. On information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng never intended to work for MPS long-term. While Mr. Dong promised to move his family to MPS’s California location to entice MPS to hire him, and Ms. Sheng promised that she would move to California after a brief period of remote work, neither Mr. Dong nor Ms. Sheng followed through on these promises.

6. Like all employees of MPS, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng were required to sign confidentiality agreements as conditions of their employment which prevented them from using or disclosing MPS’s confidential information to unauthorized third parties.

7. However, on information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng spent much of their short tenure at MPS plotting to steal highly confidential trade secrets related to the design and layout of MPS’s synchronous rectifier products.

8. A forensic analysis of the MPS laptop computers assigned to Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng shows that—before they even joined MPS—Ms. Sheng had already prepared a cost-competitive analysis comparing MPS’s products to other competitors, including their former employer Texas Instruments. The preparation of such market analyses is not typically a job responsibility of an engineer like Ms. Sheng. It turns out, however, that Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng were planning all along to form their own competing company using MPS’s trade secrets.

9. On information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng took steps to start their own company (Meraki) while still employed by MPS. Ms. Sheng even lied to MPS when she resigned

by stating she was going “to work on something complete [sic] different at a local IC start-up company.” Ms. Sheng’s work at Meraki, however, was neither “complete[ly] different” than her work at MPS, nor “local” to North Carolina where Ms. Sheng lived, as Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng formed Meraki in China to directly compete against MPS, selling the exact same products to the exact same customers.

10. As part of their work for MPS, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had direct access to confidential trade secrets related to the design and layout of MPS’s synchronous rectifier products. Ms. Sheng even requested access to MPS’s confidential information on multiple occasions, beyond what would typically be required in her position. A recent forensic analysis shows that both Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had connected personal external storage devices to their MPS laptops while employed with MPS and had copied confidential files to those devices, including confidential customer marketing lists, competitive analyses, and technical design files.

11. In addition, Meraki was founded under the names of their mothers, in an apparent effort to cover their tracks and avoid associating their names directly with Meraki’s business registration. Meraki’s business registration also lists an angel investor, suggesting that, on information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng were negotiating with potential investors in Meraki while still employed at MPS.

12. Recently, Meraki has started marketing and selling synchronous rectifier products, including, e.g., the MK1808, MK91808, MK1718, MK91718, MK1708, MK1807, MK91807, MK1715, MK1716, MK17350, MK17360, MK91735, MK91736, MK91738, MK1705A, MK1706, MK1709, and MK1719 product families (“Meraki Synchronous Rectifier Products”), some of which are designed to be pin-for-pin compatible with MPS’s products, like the MP6908, and are even advertised as such.

13. Baseus manufactures, sells, offers to sell, and imports Baseus-branded products that incorporate the accused Meraki Synchronous Rectifier Products (“Accused Products”). Baseus Accused Products include Baseus USB chargers. For example, the Baseus USB-C 100W GaN II Fast Charger incorporates the Meraki MK91808.

14. Baseus Accessories sells, offers to sell, and imports Accused Products in the United States, from Ohio. For example, around April 2021, Baseus Accessories sold an order of Baseus GAN II Fast Chargers (or “Gan2 Fast Chargers”) to Navitas Semiconductor (“Navitas”) in California.

15. Meraki’s synchronous rectifier products and Baseus Accused Products incorporate trade secrets about the design and layout of MPS’s synchronous rectifier products—trade secrets that Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng could only have learned through their employment with MPS—in violation of the confidentiality agreements they signed with MPS as a condition of their employment.

16. Meraki’s synchronous rectifier products and Baseus Accused Products also infringe a number of MPS’s patents that were developed to protect MPS’s own innovation in the field of synchronous rectification. Meraki knew that the sales of its infringing products would infringe MPS’s patents. Indeed, upon information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng were well aware of MPS’s patents as a result of their engineering roles at MPS. Baseus Accessories knew, since at least the service of subpoenas in the Texas action on Baseus Accessories on August 30, 2021, that the sale, import, and offer for sale of the Accused Products would infringe MPS’s patents.

17. In addition, by selling and marketing to distributors, resellers, and end customers in the United States, such as Navitas, Baseus Accessories has induced and continues to induce third parties to sell and offer for sale its infringing products.

18. Baseus Accesories committed these acts of infringement without license or authorization, and it has done so with knowledge of the Asserted Patents and egregious disregard for MPS's rights in the Asserted Patents.

19. Accordingly, MPS requests that Defendant be preliminarily and permanently enjoined from continuing its direct and indirect infringement of MPS's patents. MPS also seeks monetary damages, including trebled damages and attorneys' fees, for Defendant's willful infringement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 284 and 285.

PARTIES

20. Plaintiff Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business and headquarters at 5808 Lake Washington Boulevard NE, Kirkland, Washington 98033.

21. Plaintiff Chengdu Monolithic Power Systems Co., Ltd. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the People's Republic of China with its principal place of business at No. 8 Kexin Road, West Park of Export, Processing Zone West Hi-Tech Zone, Chengdu, Sichuan, 611731.

22. On information and belief, Defendant Baseus Accessories LLC is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Ohio, with its principal place of business at 4340 Lyman Drive, Hilliard, Ohio, 43026-1243. The website of Baseus Accessories LLC identifies it as the "US team" for the "Baseus brand."

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

23. This action includes claims for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including but not limited to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

24. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over MPS's claims for patent infringement arising under 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*

25. This Court has general personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant is at home in this district. Defendant is organized in Ohio, and its principal place of business is in this district at 4340 Lyman Drive, Hilliard, Ohio, 43026-1243.

26. This Court further has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it has committed, aided, abetted, contributed to, induced, or participated in the commission of patent infringement in this judicial district and elsewhere. Defendant admits to having sold Accused Products from this judicial district. Defendant also imports and offers for sale Accused Products from this district. Thus, Defendant has established minimum contacts within this forum and purposefully availed itself of the benefits of this forum, and the exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendants would not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Defendants are thus subject to personal jurisdiction in this forum.

27. Defendant has its principal place of business in Hilliard, Ohio, which is in this judicial district. Venue therefore is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)(1) and/or 1400(b).

THE ASSERTED PATENTS

28. MPS incorporates by reference the allegations in the paragraphs above.

29. Plaintiff Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. owns by assignment all rights to United States Patent No. 8,400,790 (“the ’790 Patent”), titled “Latch-Off of Real Time Synchronous Rectification for Light Load Control,” which duly and legally issued on March 19, 2013. A copy of the ’790 Patent is attached as Exhibit A.

30. Plaintiff Chengdu Monolithic Power Systems Co., Ltd. owns by assignment all rights to United States Patent No. 10,432,104 (“the ’104 Patent”), titled “Control Circuit for Synchronous Rectifier and The Method Thereof,” which duly and legally issued on October 1, 2019. A copy of the ’104 Patent is attached as Exhibit B.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

MPS Overview

31. MPS incorporates by reference the allegations in the paragraphs above.

32. MPS is an industry-leading fabless semiconductor company that designs, develops, markets, and sells semiconductor products, including synchronous rectifier controllers for AC/DC conversion.

33. MPS has achieved significant growth year over year and great financial success due to its unmatched technical innovation. MPS has a large patent portfolio covering its semiconductor products including its synchronous rectifier products. MPS marks the products practicing its patents by, among other things, noting such products are “patent protected” on the datasheets that MPS provides to its customers and potential customers.

34. MPS’s synchronous rectifier products are used and incorporated into a wide range of charging products that require conversion from AC to DC power. MPS’s synchronous rectifier technology offers many efficiencies. For example, MPS’s synchronous rectifier technology has fast turn-off speed, which ensures that a certain secondary field-effect transistor (“FET”) will never be turned on while the primary FET is turned on. This makes it possible to use MPS’s synchronous rectifier technology in two modes: a discontinuous conduction mode (“DCM”), and a continuous conduction mode (“CCM”).

35. In addition, MPS’s synchronous rectifier products, like the MP6908, allow for a wide range of potential input voltage. For various technical reasons, this allows MPS’s synchronous rectifier products to be integrated into products that use single winding transformers to achieve the best efficiency in the minimum solution size. MPS’s products can thus be widely used in various chargers and adapters, including USB power delivery chargers and quick charging applications.

MPS's Protection of Its Confidential Information

36. MPS takes the protection of its confidential information very seriously. In addition to the confidentiality agreements that MPS requires all of its employees to sign as a condition of their employment, MPS has formulated and implemented strict internal regulations for protecting trade secrets, including but not limited to its IT policy, Design and Development Data Security Procedure, and Employee Handbook. MPS also strictly controls access to its confidential information through technical means.

37. The entrances and exits of MPS office buildings are equipped with access control systems. Only employees with badges or visitor ID cards approved by MPS can enter and visit MPS. All the visiting and entrance logs are recorded on the system server.

38. All MPS technical documents and sensitive documents about pricing and customers are subject to restrictions on MPS's network, and accessible only to specific MPS employees working on the corporation's business. These restrictions are part of MPS's larger security system, which includes reasonable precautions under the circumstances to protect and control access to both its physical facilities and to its electronic data. Additionally, access to various MPS networks, computer areas, and directories is limited to those areas necessary for an employee to perform his or her duties. Every MPS computer is password-protected. MPS employs a variety of other security devices controlled by an Information Technology security team to protect the security and confidentiality of its electronic information, including firewalls, file transfer protocols, and security logs.

39. As an example, strict authority management and control measures have been adopted for the Design Engineering database file (folder). This database contains highly confidential information such as design, layout, and circuit diagrams. Users must obtain the

approval of the vice president of the Design Engineering department in advance, and then the IT/CAD department can set the appropriate access authority. No user can access the Design Engineering database without approval.

MPS's Employment of Mr. Dong in February 2016

40. Wei Dong and Lin Sheng are former MPS employees having left MPS's employment in March and April 2017, sequentially.

41. Mr. Dong applied to work at MPS in November 2015. He was interviewed shortly thereafter and accepted MPS's employment offer to become MPS's Product Line Director for AC/DC products on January 8, 2016. Despite accepting the offer on January 8, 2016, Mr. Dong oddly requested that MPS postpone a new employee announcement for almost two months, until February 22, for personal reasons. This was despite the fact that his first day of employment at MPS was February 16, 2016.

42. On February 15, 2016, Mr. Dong executed MPS's Confidential Information and Invention Assignment Agreement ("Dong NDA") where he agreed, among other obligations, "at all times during [his] employment and thereafter, to hold in strictest confidence, and not to use, reproduce or copy, except for the benefit of [MPS], or to disclose to any person, firm or corporation without written authorization of the Board of Directors of [MPS], any Confidential Information of [MPS]..."

43. The Dong NDA also prohibited him from "keep[ing], access[ing], transmit[ing], stor[ing], transfer[ing], email[ing], or otherwise maintain[ing] any Confidential Information of [MPS]..."

44. As MPS's Product Line Director for AC/DC products, which requires a strong technical expertise, Mr. Dong (who claims on his resume to have a Ph.D. in electrical engineering)

had access to MPS's confidential information and trade secrets about all of MPS's AC/DC products, including MPS's synchronous rectifier products, like the MP6908, as well as product roadmaps for MPS's future design opportunities. Such information includes MPS's highly confidential design data, layout data, and plot data for these products, which MPS maintains with the strictest confidentiality, given that disclosure of such information to MPS's competitors would allow them to use MPS's trade secrets to copy MPS's products like the MP6908, causing competitive harm to MPS. As a Product Line Director, Mr. Dong also had access to MPS's pricing and customer information, so that he could work with the sales team to secure socket wins in customer products, such as battery chargers.

Mr. Dong Urges MPS to Hire Ms. Sheng Shortly After He Was Hired Without Disclosing Their Prior Relationship

45. On information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng have known each other for decades, having attended Tsing Hua University together in the early 1990s. They worked together at Texas Instruments ("TI") from at least 2007 until 2016, where Mr. Dong was Ms. Sheng's supervisor. They both started employment at TI's Cary, North Carolina office around the same time in 2006–07, and both worked for TI in China from 2010–2012.

46. On February 15, 2016, at the same time Mr. Dong was signing his NDA with MPS, Ms. Sheng applied to MPS independently through a recruiter. MPS's human resources forwarded her resume to the Design Engineering department for consideration, but she was not invited for an interview. Having not heard back from MPS, Mr. Dong created the position of Staff Architect in the Product Line department for Ms. Sheng to apply to, in order to ensure that she could be hired by MPS and would report to him. Mr. Dong was very involved in setting up Ms. Sheng's interview schedules and the persons she would be interviewing with. Neither Mr. Dong nor Ms. Sheng

disclosed to MPS that they had a long work and personal history together going back decades, even though Mr. Dong was personally pushing MPS to hire Ms. Sheng.

MPS Employment of Ms. Sheng in June 2016

47. At Mr. Dong's insistence, ultimately MPS made an employment offer to Ms. Sheng, which she accepted on May 27, 2016. Once again, Mr. Dong made another odd request that MPS postpone a new employee announcement of Ms. Sheng's hiring until June 6. Ms. Sheng also asked to delay announcement of her hiring by a couple of months.

48. Ms. Sheng's first day of employment with MPS was June 6, 2016, and that same day, she executed MPS's Confidential Information and Invention Assignment Agreement ("Sheng NDA") where she agreed to the same relevant contractual provisions as Mr. Dong.

49. Although a Staff Architect like Ms. Sheng would normally be expected to work out of MPS's engineering headquarters in San Jose, California, Ms. Sheng asked to remain in North Carolina, where she was previously employed, and to work remotely for a period of time, after which she would eventually move to California. However, Ms. Sheng remained a remote employee of MPS during her entire employment with MPS. On information and belief, Ms. Sheng never intended to move to California and work at MPS's San Jose office, as she knew her tenure as an employee of MPS would be short-lived.

Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng Demand Additional Access to MPS Trade Secrets

50. A recent forensic analysis of the MPS laptop computers assigned to Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng for their sole use for MPS business shows that Ms. Sheng's job application with MPS was a premeditated and deliberate effort by Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng to target MPS for its confidential information. In 2015, before she joined MPS, Ms. Sheng created a cost competitive analysis of ideal diode and isolated driver series products of different companies including MPS.

This document continued to be updated throughout 2016 by Ms. Sheng, after she started at MPS. Cost competitive analysis is not within the job responsibilities of Staff Architects like Ms. Sheng, who are supposed to focus on technical design and engineering issues. Ms. Sheng created many more competitive analyses, many of which pre-date 2015.

51. As Staff Architect in the Product Line Department, Ms. Sheng did not have the same level of access to MPS's highly confidential and trade secret information as a typical circuit designer in MPS's Design and Engineering Department. On or about June 9, 2016, Mr. Dong requested that Ms. Sheng be granted additional access to MPS's highly confidential design database, including access to design data, layout data, and plot data for certain AC/DC products, including MPS's synchronous rectifier products MP6907 and MP6908, giving Ms. Sheng full technical access as a design engineer and allowing her to access MPS's trade secrets about the products. Mr. Dong did not provide a reason for requesting this access, even though access to such confidential information is typically unnecessary for Product Line Department employees. Nonetheless, MPS had no reason at that time to distrust Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng, so the access was granted.

52. As part of the request for Ms. Sheng to receive additional access, she mentioned that she was working on the MP6908 kickoff and its New Project Objective Report ("NPOR"). Given that the cost competitive analysis that Ms. Sheng created in 2015 contained information on the MP69XX series ideal diode and its technical parameters, it appears that Ms. Sheng targeted these products before ever joining MPS.

53. In August 2016, Ms. Sheng offered to help Mr. Lin Feng, the lead circuit designer at MPS for the MP6908, by attending the design review in Chengdu, China. This is not a typical job responsibility for Product Line employees and would have given Ms. Sheng access to the

MP6908's highly confidential circuit diagram. Once again, MPS had no reason at that time to distrust Ms. Sheng, so she was granted the additional access. Notably, Ms. Sheng asked to see trade secret cross-sectional device structures, electrical design properties, and manufacturing processes in ViewWise (a document-management program that MPS uses to restrict access to confidential files to disallow copying), even though she never designed any circuits during her employment at MPS. Ms. Sheng is the only non-design employee to whom MPS has ever given this level of access.

Ms. Sheng Announces Her Abrupt Resignation After Seven Months

54. On January 21, 2017, after working at MPS for less than eight months, Ms. Sheng told MPS that she was going to resign for personal reasons. In addition, she complained that it was difficult for her to do her job remotely, and that she did not have enough access to all design engineering files. In an effort to accommodate her, and upon her request, Ms. Sheng was transferred from MPS's Product Line Department (where she reported to Mr. Dong) to MPS's Design and Engineering Department (where she would report to MPS's VP of Design Engineering, Mr. Zhengwei Zhang) on February 6, 2017.

55. Despite being granted the additional access she requested, Ms. Sheng requested a two-month unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons starting on February 6, 2017, during which she maintained her access to MPS design documents. Ms. Sheng did not give any more information on why she was requesting that leave beyond undescribed "personal reasons."

Mr. Dong's Abrupt Departure from MPS in March 2017

56. On March 6, 2017, after only one year with MPS, Mr. Dong abruptly resigned from MPS. The explanation he gave was that his family remained on the East Coast of the United States, making it difficult for him to work out of California, and he did not want to work for MPS

remotely. This explanation is at odds with what he said when he joined MPS one year earlier, as he had previously said he would be moving his family to California.

57. After Mr. Dong resigned, MPS sent him a letter on March 31, 2017, to remind him of his confidentiality obligations under the NDA with MPS.

Ms. Sheng's Ultimate Departure from MPS in April 2017

58. On April 6, 2017, the very day her two-month unpaid leave was to end, Ms. Sheng abruptly resigned from MPS. As explanation given by e-mail on April 3, Ms. Sheng stated she was going “to work on something complete [sic] different at a local IC start-up company.” This was a lie because, on information and belief, she and Mr. Dong were secretly planning to start Meraki in China (not “local” to Ms. Sheng in North Carolina) while still employed at MPS, with the intention that Meraki would compete against MPS for the exact same customers and with the exact same products. On information and belief, Ms. Sheng and Mr. Dong never intended to work for MPS long term, and resigned in order to steal MPS's trade secret information to start Meraki.

Forensic Evidence Shows Voluminous Downloads of MPS Trade Secrets Without Authorization or Disclosure to MPS

59. In a recent forensic analysis of the MPS laptop computers assigned to Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng for their sole use for MPS business, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng both connected external storage devices to their MPS laptops while employed with MPS and copied MPS's confidential files to those external devices.

60. Confidential files copied by Mr. Dong include a distribution map of AC/DC products (an internal-only presentation of the different applications and technical specifications of MPS's AC/DC products), a list of strategic customers of these products, and a customer marketing list.

61. Confidential files copied by Ms. Sheng include multiple competitive analyses, technical design files, and technical evaluations.

62. As part of the exit interview process, both Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng signed certifications that they were aware of and would continue to abide by their continuing confidentiality obligations to MPS. They also falsely certified that they did not have any MPS data storage devices to return, even though the forensic analysis shows that both of them connected external data storage devices to their MPS laptops to copy files.

Formation of Meraki by Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng Under False Pretenses in April 2017 Within Two Months of Their Departure From MPS

63. On information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng completed the founding of Meraki on April 20, 2017, less than two months after Mr. Dong resigned from MPS, and only two weeks after Ms. Sheng resigned from MPS.

64. On information and belief, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng registered Meraki under the names of their mothers as principle founders, Ms. Shuzhen Chen (Mr. Dong's mother) and Ms. Rui Wang (Ms. Sheng's mother), to avoid suspicion connected with the registration. On information and belief, Wei Dong has used other names, including Wayne Dong and Wesley Dong, apparently changing his English name to Wesley only after his employment with MPS ended. On information and belief, Lin Sheng has used other names, including Elaine Sheng, apparently changing her English name to Elaine only after her employment with MPS ended.

65. Meraki's business registration also includes as a principal founder an angel investor called Shenzhen Weina Dianshi Space Innovation Co., Ltd. ("Weina"). On information and belief, it would typically take several months or up to a year to negotiate with an angel investor on the formation of a semiconductor company in China, so the fact that Meraki was registered only two

weeks after Ms. Sheng resigned suggests that Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had been conducting these negotiations while still employed with MPS.

66. Meraki is a direct competitor of MPS in the synchronous rectifier market. Meraki's products include synchronous rectifier products including, e.g., the MK1808, MK91808, MK1718, MK91718, MK1708, MK1807, MK91807, MK1715, MK1716, MK17350, MK17360, MK91735, MK91736, MK91738, MK1705A, MK1706, MK1709, and MK1719 product families. On information and belief, some of Meraki's products are designed to be pin-for-pin compatible with MPS's products like the MP6908, and are even advertised as such.

67. On information and belief, Meraki's direct and indirect customers include charger manufacturers, such as QingMi, Baseus, Lianxunfa, ABP Group, and Bull. On information and belief, manufacturers, such as QingMi, Baseus, Lianxunfa, ABP Group, and Bull, manufacture charger products incorporating Meraki's synchronous rectifier products that rely on the claimed inventions of one or more the Asserted Patents as well as numerous MPS trade secrets.

68. Baseus manufactures, sells, offers to sell, and imports Baseus-branded products that incorporate the accused Meraki Synchronous Rectifier Products. Baseus Accused Products include Baseus USB chargers. For example, the Baseus USB-C 100W GaN II Fast Charger incorporates the Meraki MK91808.

69. Baseus Accessories sells, offers to sell, and imports Accused Products in the United States, from Ohio. For example, around April 2021, Baseus Accessories sold an order of Baseus GAN II Fast Chargers (or "Gan2 Fast Chargers") to Navitas in California.

70. On information and belief, MPS and Meraki compete for at least some of the same direct or indirect customers including Delta Electronics, Inc. ("Delta"), a major manufacturer of power products, including chargers that utilize synchronous rectifier products. On information

and belief, Meraki is unfairly competing with MPS by aggressively pursuing Delta and many other customers (including without limitation Qing Mi, Baseus, Lianxunfa, ABP Group, and Bull) with the intention of displacing MPS by promoting products that are pin-to-pin compatible and undercutting MPS's prices using MPS trade secrets that Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng unlawfully misappropriated. Indeed, through the misappropriation of MPS's trade secrets, Meraki is unfairly competing against MPS in the synchronous rectifier product market by cutting time to market and decreasing expenditures related to research and development.

Meraki Copies MPS Products Using Stolen MPS Trade Secrets

71. MPS first learned that Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had founded Meraki in February 2019. Shortly thereafter, MPS learned that Meraki was marketing and selling synchronous rectifier products that they advertised as pin-to-pin compatible with MPS products like the MP6908.

72. MPS began developing the MP6908 ideal diode as early as 2011, and the MP6908 improved upon prior generations of ideal diode products that were previously developed or under development, such as the MP6900, MP6901, and MP6902. After years of research and development and multiple design changes, MPS released the first iteration of the MP6908 in October 2017, and made the first shipment to customer Delta in December 2017. MPS published the MP6908 datasheet on its website in April 2018.

73. On information and belief, the MK1808 and MP6908 have the same function, features, package, and applications. The two products even have the same block-level circuits for realization. Both products are ultra-fast turn-off synchronous rectifiers with the same features, including support for DCM, CCM, quasi-resonant operations and active clamp flyback. Neither product requires auxiliary winding for high-side or low-side rectification, and both products work with standard and logic-level synchronous rectifier MOSFETs. Both products are available in a

SOT23-6 package, and both products are used for USB power delivery and quick charger applications, as well as flyback power supplies with very low and/or variable output voltage.

74. The design and functionality copied from the MP6908 into the Accused Products includes the technologies of the Asserted Patents. For example, the MK1808, like the MP6908, uses slew rate detection to avoid false turn-ons as claimed by the '104 Patent, and Meraki advertises as much in its marketing materials. The MK1808, like the MP6908, also uses a measure of gate voltage to determine when to turn off synchronous rectification, as claimed by the '790 patent.

75. MK1808 and MP6908 also have the same pin definition, but the MK1808 rearranges the order. However, on information and belief, Meraki converted the MK1808 to the MK91808 by co-packing it with a MOSFET in order to make it pin-to-pin compatible with the MP6908.

76. As a result, it is apparent that Meraki copied the MK1808 and MK91808 from the MP6908, based on the confidential trade secret materials obtained by Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng. Furthermore, on information and belief, Meraki also obtained the customer list and specific customer price information of MP6908, and then began to promote the MK1808 to these target customers with a lower price. Meraki provided customers multiple marketing documents specifically about replacing the MP6908 with the MK91808, including one showing that only two resistors need to be changed to switch from using an MP6908 to an MK91808.

77. Meraki also developed other synchronous rectifier products, including the MK91718, which is advertised as pin-to-pin compatible with MP9989, which is a co-packaged product of the MP6908 and a MOSFET. The MK91718 is also co-packaged with a MOSFET. Some Meraki products like the MK1808 when combined with a MOSFET create an infringing

synchronous switching converter but cannot be used except in combination with a MOSFET, giving those products no substantial non-infringing uses.

78. On information and belief, Meraki released the MK1808 in 2018, approximately one year after Meraki was founded, compared to MPS's seven-year development of the MP6908. Given the length of time to define the products, find a proper foundry, acquire electronic design automation ("EDA") software, run circuit simulations, create the layout, complete a tape-out, and conduct road tests, it would not have been possible for Meraki to develop and release its products so quickly had they not misappropriated MPS's trade secrets.

Meraki Engages in Unfair Competition by Promoting Its Knock-Offs to MPS Customers

79. On information and belief, Meraki has approached MPS's customers such as Delta to displace MPS with Meraki's patent-infringing and trade-secret-misappropriated synchronous rectifier products. Despite Delta being MPS's first and largest customer for the MP6908, on information and belief, Meraki has aggressively pursued displacing MPS by using MPS's trade secret customer and pricing information to undercut MPS's price, and Meraki's products are now being designed into Delta's solutions. On information and belief, Meraki has pursued displacing MPS at several of MPS's customers in addition to Delta, including without limitation, Lenovo, QingMi, Baseus, Lianxunfa, ABP Group, and Bull.

80. Meraki has also intended and encouraged its patent-infringing and trade-secret-misappropriated synchronous rectifier products to be imported and sold in the United States through its distribution network, including through Promate Electronic Co., Ltd. ("Promate"). Meraki provides some pricing to its distributors in U.S. dollars and provides some datasheets in English. Meraki also markets to customers that it has an office in the United States for research, design, and marketing, which includes directing sales into the United States. Further, in Meraki's

agreement with Promate, Meraki describes Promate's line of credit in terms of U.S. dollars. Meraki refers customers and potential customers who are interested in acquiring Meraki's products in the United States to its U.S. distribution network, including to companies like Promate. Meraki specifically requested that Promate ship accused products to a customer in the United States. As confirmed in a deposition with a Promate 30(b)(6) witness, Promate had never heard of the customer before receiving the request from Meraki, proving that Promate's shipment was made due to Meraki's encouragement and intent for those products to be imported into the United States. And Meraki competed for Delta's and Lenovo's business, knowing that Delta and Lenovo have significant business directed at the United States. Finally, Meraki's sales agreement with at least one distributor, which are Meraki's standard terms, guarantees against infringement of third-party intellectual property without any geographic limitation, meaning it includes United States patents.

81. Meraki directs and oversees sales to manufacturer customers, even when those sales pass through distributors first. Meraki requires that its distributors report and register customers with Meraki, and secure Meraki's approval, before any sales can be made. Meraki also conducts joint presentations with its distributors to manufacturer customers or potential customers. And Meraki communicates directly with manufacturer customers or potential customers to help sales through distributors. Meraki must therefore be aware of the ultimate end products incorporating Meraki products, and the regional market where the products are destined to be sold, including the U.S.

Meraki's Filing of Patent Applications Incorporating MPS Trade Secrets

82. Furthermore, on information and belief, Meraki used and publicly disclosed MPS's confidential trade secrets as part of Meraki's filing for patent applications in China. Meraki's misappropriation of MPS's trade secrets for its own benefit has competitively harmed MPS in

multiple ways. First, Meraki's Chinese patent applications have caused MPS's trade secrets to be exposed to the public including to MPS's competitors. Second, Meraki's Chinese patent applications potentially allow Meraki to obtain Chinese patents with rights to file corresponding applications worldwide, including in the United States, on technology that was stolen from MPS.

83. Specifically, Meraki filed two Chinese patent applications CN201810172629.2 and CN201820291252.8 on March 1, 2018, with Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng named as co-inventors. The first application was published on July 27, 2018, as CN108336914A and the second application was published and issued on November 16, 2018, as CN208112519U. The technical contents disclosed in these Meraki's two Chinese patent applications are almost the same. They are both directed to secondary controllers for controlling secondary rectifying switches, and to methods for avoiding false turn-on of the synchronous rectifying switch due to voltage ringing during the DCM. When compared to a confidential block diagram of the MP6908, it is apparent that these patent applications have substantially disclosed the same false turn-on solution at the block level as the MP6908, including the reference block, the comparator blocks, an integrator block, and the latch and output block. These circuit blocks are confidential trade secrets subject to restrictions on MPS's network, although both Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had access to this information during their employment with MPS as part of their work on the MP6908, as described above.

84. Additionally, Meraki filed a Chinese patent application CN201810181984.6 on March 6, 2018, with Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng named as co-inventors. This application was published as CN108418432A on August 17, 2018, and issued as Chinese Patent No. CN108418432B on December 31, 2019. This patent application is directed to control circuits and methods to improve dynamic load response. This patent application has substantially the same circuit components and layout as the MP6930, an MPS AC/DC product that was developed by

MPS but never released to market, meaning all information about that product has been maintained by MPS as confidential trade secrets, although both Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had access to this information during their employment with MPS, as described above. Moreover, Mr. Dong even received an e-mail on March 19, 2016, attaching a confidential PowerPoint presentation about the MP6930 technology.

85. Additionally, Meraki filed a Chinese patent application CN201920371028.4 on March 22, 2019, with Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng named as co-inventors. This application was published as CN209488469U on October 11, 2019. This patent application is directed to secondary controllers for controlling secondary rectifying switches, and specifically to methods for keeping the gate driving signal of the secondary rectifying switch monotonically decreasing before turn-off, to increase efficiency and avoid false turn-off. This patent application has substantially the same components at the circuit-level as MPS had at one time created and considered as a fast turn-off solution in MPS's MP690X family, including a driving module, a comparing module and a pull-down current module, with a gate driving signal provided to control a secondary rectifying switch. MPS did not end up adopting this solution for its MP690X family, so all information about that solution has been maintained by MPS as confidential trade secrets, although both Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng had access to this information during their employment with MPS as described above.

Defendant's and Meraki's Familiarity with the Asserted Patents

86. On information and belief, Meraki had pre-suit knowledge of MPS's Asserted Patents based on MPS's employment of Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng for the design and marketing of MPS's synchronous rectifier products. During their employment with MPS, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng made themselves aware of MPS's patent portfolio covering synchronous rectifier products,

including the patents asserted in this and the Texas complaint. For example, on November 3, 2016, Mr. Dong e-mailed to Ms. Sheng a list of MPS patents covering MPS's AC/DC products including the '790 Patent. Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng thus knew that MPS products, like the MP6908 they worked on, practice the '790 Patent.

87. Furthermore, the Chinese patent application to which MPS's '104 Patent claims priority was filed on July 11, 2017, shortly after Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng left MPS, and the named inventors on that patent are all individuals who collaborated with Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng on the design of synchronous rectifier products, specifically the MP6908. Mr. Lin Feng, the lead circuit designer for the MP6908, and the other three named inventors, Mr. Lei Miao, Mr. Siran Wang, and Mr. Hui Li, all reported to Mr. Dong. While they were employed with MPS, Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng specifically discussed filing a patent application covering the technology in the MP6908 with Mr. Feng and Mr. Miao. No other patent applications listing Mr. Miao as a named inventor were filed by MPS in 2016 or 2017. Mr. Dong and Ms. Sheng thus knew that the MP6908 practiced the patent application to be filed, which would become the '104 Patent.

88. Meraki and Promate also have knowledge of MPS's Asserted Patents from at least the filing and serving of the original complaint (No. 6:20-cv-00376, Dkt. 1) in the Texas action.

89. Defendant Baseus Accessories, and QingMi and Baseus, all have knowledge of MPS's Asserted Patents from at least the September 10, 2021 filing and serving of the Second Amended Complaint (*Id.*, Dkt. No. 63) in the Texas action. Baseus Accessories has knowledge of the Asserted Patents from even earlier, when MPS served subpoenas on Baseus Accessories in the Texas action on August 30, 2021.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

CLAIM 1 – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,400,790

90. MPS incorporates by reference the allegations in the paragraphs above.

91. Defendant has directly infringed one or more claims of the '790 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) through the use, sale, offer for sale, and/or importation into the United States of Baseus products that incorporate Meraki synchronous rectifier products, including, e.g., the MK1808, MK91808, MK1718, MK91718, MK1708, MK1807, MK91807, MK1715, MK1716, MK17350, MK17360, MK91735, MK91736, MK91738, MK1705A, MK1706, MK1709, and MK1719 product families, some of which are designed to be pin-for-pin compatible with MPS's products like the MP6908, and are even advertised as such. Such Baseus products include, e.g., USB chargers like the Baseus 100W GaN II Fast Charger.

92. For example, the Baseus 100W GaN II Fast Charger includes the Meraki MK91808, and the Meraki MK91808 includes all of the limitations of Claim 1 of the '790 Patent.

93. The MK91808 is a synchronous rectifier with both synchronous rectification circuitry and signals.

94. The MK91808 has a light load circuit that receives an input voltage.

95. The MK91808 selectively latches off synchronous rectification based on the input voltage being the same as the gate voltage, as a turn-off blanking time is applied, during which the gate driver signal is latched off. Thus, the MK91808 includes all limitations of Claim 1 of the '790 Patent.

96. Defendant Baseus Accessories has actively induced the direct infringement of one or more claims of the '790 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b). Specifically, Baseus Accessories understands, intends, and encourages Baseus Accused Products to be used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported into the United States by its distributors, resellers, and end-customers, such as

Navitas. For example, Baseus Accessories sold an order of Baseus 100W Gan II Fast Chargers to Navitas. Baseus Accessories also encourages use and sale in the United States of Baseus Accused Products through its website, where it describes itself as the Baseus “Official USA Retailer.” Baseus Accessories knows and intends Baseus Accused Products to be used, sold, and offered for sale specifically in the United States, because Baseus USB chargers that are Accused Products include prongs that fit U.S. outlets and are adapted to U.S. voltages.

97. Furthermore, Baseus Accessories’ sales of its Accused Products in the United States continued despite its knowledge dating back to at least the service of the subpoenas in the Texas action on August 30, 2021. Baseus Accessories has not committed to stop selling Accused Products. The Accused Products infringe the ’790 Patent. Baseus Accessories’ continued sales and marketing of Accused Products from and to the United States demonstrate Defendant’s ongoing active intent and encouragement of end retailers and customers to purchase and use infringing Accused Products in the United States.

98. As relevant to each of induced infringement and willful infringement, Defendant has knowledge of infringement of the ’790 Patent from at least the service of subpoenas in the Texas action on Baseus Accessories on August 30, 2021. Defendant has knowledge of further details of infringement of the ’790 Patent from at least the September 10, 2021 filing of the second amended complaint in the Texas action (No. 6:21-cv-00876, Dkt. No. 63), which alleged specific examples of Accused Products manufactured by Baseus that are sold in the United States, including by Defendant Baseus Accessories.

99. Infringement by Defendant has been, and continues to be, willful and deliberate, and has caused damage to MPS. By selling the Accused Products after receiving notice of the

allegations in the Texas action, and after being named as a defendant in that action, Defendant has sold the accused devices with the knowledge and intent that they infringe the '790 Patent.

100. Baseus Accessories imported, marketed, and sold infringing products despite knowing there was an objectively high risk that such products infringed the '790 Patent. In importing, marketing, and selling these products, Baseus Accessories therefore knew that the products were covered by the '790 Patent, or were willfully blind to that risk, but imported, marketed, and sold these products despite that objective risk, thus acting in reckless disregard of MPS's patent rights.

101. As a consequence of Defendant's infringement of the '790 Patent, MPS has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury, for example, in the form of lost sales, lost profits and loss of market share.

102. Unless enjoined, Defendant and/or others acting on behalf of Defendant will continue their infringing acts, thereby causing additional irreparable injury to MPS for which there is no adequate remedy at law. Specifically, Defendant's actions will irreparably harm MPS's position in the synchronous rectifier market by causing MPS to lose indirect customers.

CLAIM 2 – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 10,432,104

103. MPS incorporates by reference the allegations in the paragraphs above.

104. Defendant has directly infringed one or more claims of the '104 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) through the use, sale, offer for sale, and/or importation into the United States of Baseus products that incorporate Meraki synchronous rectifier products, including, e.g., the MK1808, MK91808, MK1718, MK91718, MK1708, MK1807, MK91807, MK1715, MK1716, MK17350, MK17360, MK91735, MK91736, MK91738, MK1705A, MK1706, MK1709, and MK1719 product families, some of which are designed to be pin-for-pin compatible with MPS's

products like the MP6908, and are even advertised as such. Such Baseus products include, e.g., USB chargers like the Baseus 100W GaN II Fast Charger.

105. For example, the Baseus 100W GaN II Fast Charger includes the Meraki MK91808, and the Meraki MK91808 includes all of the limitations of Claim 3 of the '104 Patent.

106. The MK91808 is a controller for a synchronous rectifier.

107. The MK91808 has at least two comparators, the first of which compares a voltage threshold with the voltage across the synchronous rectifier to provide a comparison signal, and the second of which compares a different voltage threshold with the voltage across the synchronous rectifier to provide a comparison signal.

108. The MK91808 has a pulse circuit receiving the output from the first comparator, and outputting a pulse signal, which pulses for a pre-set time period when the first comparator's output changes.

109. The MK91808 has a logic gate circuit receiving the pulse signal, as well as the output from the second comparator, which provides an on-control signal based on a logic operation to the pulse signal and output from the second comparator. This on-control signal controls the "on" operation of the MK91808. Thus, the MK91808 includes all limitations of Claim 3 of the '104 Patent.

110. Defendant Baseus Accessories has actively induced the direct infringement of one or more claims of the '104 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b). Specifically, Baseus Accessories understands, intends, and encourages Baseus Accused Products to be used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported into the United States by its distributors, resellers, and end-customers, such as Navitas. For example, Baseus sold an order of Baseus 100W GaN II Fast Chargers to Navitas. Baseus Accessories also encourages use and sale in the United States of Baseus Accused Products

through its website, where it describes itself as the Baseus “Official USA Retailer.” Baseus Accessories knows and intends Baseus Accused Products to be used, sold, and offered for sale specifically in the United States, because Baseus USB chargers that are Accused Products include prongs that fit U.S. outlets and are adapted to U.S. voltages.

111. Furthermore, Baseus Accessories’ sales of its Accused Products in the United States continued despite its knowledge dating back to at least the service of the subpoenas in the Texas action on August 30, 2021. Baseus Accessories has not committed to stop selling Accused Products. The Accused Products infringe the ’104 Patent. Baseus Accessories’ continued sales and marketing of Accused Products from and to the United States demonstrate Defendant’s ongoing active intent and encouragement of end retailers and customers to purchase and use infringing Accused Products in the United States.

112. As relevant to each of induced infringement and willful infringement, Defendant has knowledge of infringement of the ’104 Patent from at least the service of subpoenas in the Texas action on Baseus Accessories on August 30, 2021. Defendant has knowledge of further details of infringement of the ’104 Patent from at least the September 10, 2021 filing of the second amended complaint in the Texas action (No. 6:21-cv-00876, Dkt. No. 63), which alleged specific examples of Accused Products manufactured by Baseus that are sold in the United States, including by Defendant Baseus Accessories.

113. Infringement by Defendant has been, and continues to be, willful and deliberate, and has caused damage to MPS. By selling the Accused Products after receiving notice of the allegations in the Texas action, and after being named as a defendant in that action, Defendant has sold the accused devices with the knowledge and intent that they infringe the ’104 Patent.

114. Baseus Accessories imported, marketed, and sold infringing products despite knowing there was an objectively high risk that such products infringed the '104 Patent. In importing, marketing, and selling these products, Baseus Accessories therefore knew that the products were covered by the '104 Patent, or were willfully blind to that risk, but imported, marketed, and sold these products despite that objective risk, thus acting in reckless disregard of MPS's patent rights.

115. As a consequence of Defendant's infringement of the '104 Patent, MPS has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury, for example, in the form of lost sales, lost profits and loss of market share.

116. Unless enjoined, Defendant and/or others acting on behalf of Defendant will continue their infringing acts, thereby causing additional irreparable injury to MPS for which there is no adequate remedy at law. Specifically, Defendant's actions will irreparably harm MPS's position in the synchronous rectifier market by causing MPS to lose indirect customers.

SPOILIATION OF EVIDENCE

117. MPS incorporates by reference the allegations in the paragraphs above.

118. Baseus Accessories has a duty to preserve relevant evidence, including relevant electronically stored information (ESI).

119. MPS gives notice that it will seek all available remedies for spoliation of evidence that may be revealed through discovery, including an adverse inference instruction to the jury if appropriate.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

120. MPS hereby demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, MPS prays for relief as follows:

A. That the Court render judgment declaring that Baseus Accessories has infringed, directly and/or indirectly, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, the '790 and '104 Patents in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271;

B. That the Court render judgment declaring that Baseus Accessories' infringement of the '790 and '104 Patents is willful and deliberate;

C. That MPS be awarded damages adequate to compensate MPS for Baseus Accessories' infringement of the '790 and '104 Patents;

D. That the Court temporarily, preliminarily, and permanently enjoin Baseus Accessories, and its respective successors, assigns, subsidiaries, transferees, officers, directors, agents, employees, and all others working on its behalf from making, using, selling, offering for sale, or importing in the United States any product falling within the scope of the '790 and '104 Patents, or inducing or contributing to the infringement of these patents by others;

E. That the Court render judgment declaring this to be an exceptional case and awarding treble damages to MPS for the unlawful practices of Baseus Accessories;

F. That MPS be awarded its costs, expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees;

G. That the Court order a full accounting of the damages above, including for past infringement and any continuing or future infringement;

H. That MPS be awarded pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on all damages awarded; and

I. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: December 13, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Brandon M. White

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